



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 276

January Session, 2005

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1349

Senate, April 12, 2005

The Committee on Labor and Public Employees reported through SEN. PRAGUE of the 19th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE
FEASIBILITY OF A WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
- 2 to study the feasibility of establishing a workers' compensation
- 3 insurance fund to provide reasonably-priced workers' compensation
- 4 insurance to employers in the state. The study shall include, but not be
- 5 limited to, consideration of the present availability of workers'
- 6 compensation insurance in the state, the competitiveness of the state
- 7 workers' compensation market, the cost to the state to assist in
- 8 establishing a workers' compensation fund, the likely benefit to
- 9 employers and injured employees of such a fund, the benefits and
- 10 detriments to the state of insuring state employees through such a
- 11 fund, the most beneficial means of structuring and implementing such
- 12 a fund, including fund governance and oversight and eligibility
- 13 requirements for the fund. In conducting such study, the task force

14 shall consider the experiences of other states that have established or
15 rejected similar funds.

16 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

17 (1) The chairman of the Workers' Compensation Commission, or the
18 chairman's designee;

19 (2) The Labor Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

20 (3) The Insurance Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

21 (4) The Commissioner of Administrative Services, or the
22 commissioner's designee;

23 (5) One representative from the insurance industry appointed by the
24 Governor;

25 (6) Two representatives of labor organizations, one appointed by the
26 speaker of the House of Representatives and one appointed by the
27 president pro tempore of the Senate;

28 (7) One representative from the general public appointed by the
29 minority leader of the House of Representatives;

30 (8) One small business owner appointed by the chairpersons of the
31 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
32 of matters relating to labor;

33 (9) One attorney representing injured workers appointed by the
34 chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
35 having cognizance of matters relating to labor; and

36 (10) One attorney representing employers in workers' compensation
37 matters appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.

38 (c) The chairperson shall be selected from among the members of
39 the task force. The chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the
40 task force not later than July 15, 2005.

41 (d) Not later than January 1, 2006, the task force shall submit a
42 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
43 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
44 relating to labor, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of
45 the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it
46 submits such report or January 1, 2006, whichever is earlier.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

LAB *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a task force to study the feasibility of establishing a workers' compensation insurance fund to provide reasonably-priced workers' compensation to employers in the state. The bill appoints representatives from the Department of Administrative Services, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Insurance, as well as numerous private representatives, to the task force.

The above state agencies can participate in the task force, and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by January 1, 2006, without requiring additional appropriations.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1349

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE
FEASIBILITY OF A WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE
FUND.***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 8 Nay 3